H-HERE SOME NEW POTENTIAL PROJECTS, MISS ADMIN
PLEASE TAKE A LOOK. SOME OF THEM LOOK QUITE PROMISING
OHOHO? LET ME TAKE A LOOK AT THEM THEN.
MORE PROJECTS?
toss
WHAT?!?!
WHAT DID YOU DO THAT FOR?!
AGAIN?!
THOSE WERE REALY GOOD!
YES, THEY WERE. BUT WE SIMPLY DONT HAVE THE STAFF FOR THEM.
I WANT MORE PROJECTS AND FASTER RELEASES!
AW CRAP, THE FANS ARE GOING TO BE PISSED.
OH WELL~
INSTEAD OF COMPLAINING ABOUT IT, THEY SHOULD VOLUNTEER TO HELP OUT.
WE CAN'T DO ANYTING WITHOUT MORE STAFF. THESE PROJECTS DON'T CLEAN THEMSELVES YOU KNOW.
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LAST TIME'S SUMMARY IS POPULAR! ROLAN-SAN!

THIS IS ROLAN'S PREVIOUS EXISTENCE

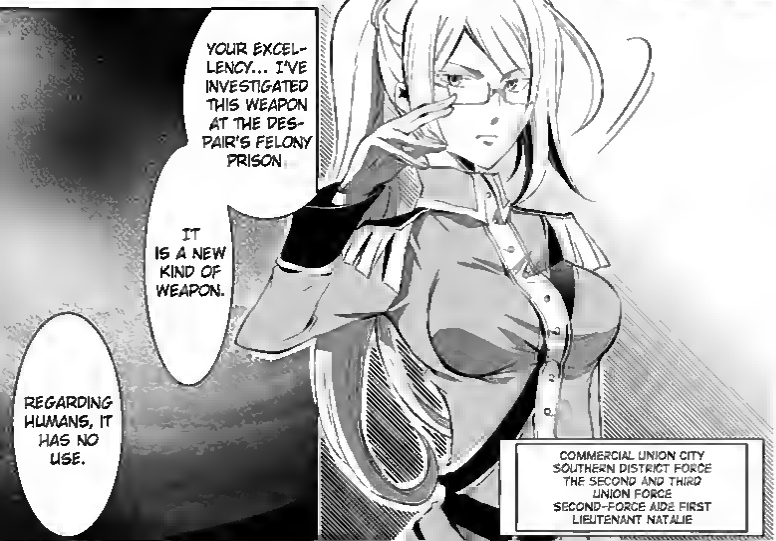
DEMON KING

OH DEAR GOD
IF YOU WERE ALSO A WOMAN, THEN THE FLAG WOULD STAND ERECT, BUT...
THAT REALLY IS TOO BAD, YOU KNOW?
YOU'RE DROPPING THE BOMB LIKE THAT! KNOCK IT OFF! YOU'RE JUST INVITING A MISUNDERSTANDING!
IT'S A JOKE!

THE BOUNDARY OF DESPAIR
WELL, WE WILL MAKE USE OF IT...

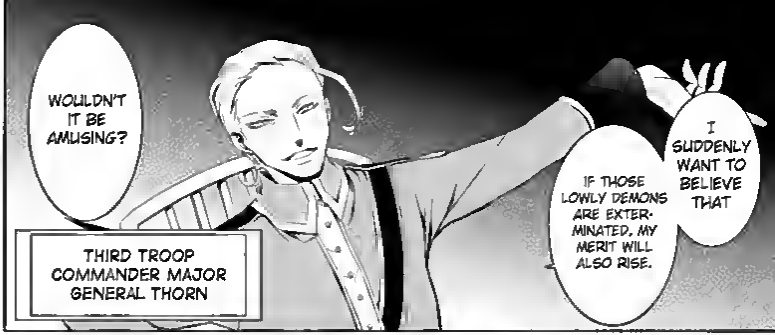
◆新兵器の実力とは…!?

HEY
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE WHAT OUR LEADER KNOWS?
?
?
WA!
I WAS ON MY WAY TO THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT WHEN I GOT HERE.
IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT.


YOUR EXCELLENCY... I'VE INVESTIGATED THIS WEAPON AT THE DESPAIR'S FELONY PRISON
IT IS A NEW KIND OF WEAPON.
REGARDING HUMANS, IT HAS NO USE.
COMMERCIAL UNION CITY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT FORCE
THE SECOND AND THIRD UNION FORCE
SECOND-FORCE AIDE FIRST LIEUTENANT NATALIE

IT'S FOR ANTI-DEMON USE.
WHISPER
IN OTHER WORDS...
WHAT!!!
IF YOU DO THAT SOME-THING BAD WILL HAPPEN!
SURPRISE
YO-UR YOUR EXCEL-LENCY!!

AS FOR OUR ENEMY, THAT MEANS THE DEMONS ARE ALSO JOINING IN!!!
THAT'S KIND OF A LOUD VOICE...
THE UNION'S ORDINARY SOLDIERS' BELIEF IN THE DEMONS' RETURN HAD TRULY BEGUN THIS TIME
HU HO...
SO THE BOUNDARY OF DESPAIR HAS THAT KIND OF EFFECT...
Y-YES.
BUT IS IT WHY? BECAUSE HUMANS AND DEMONS HAVE A MUTUAL ENEMY
THE COUNCIL-- THE COMMANDER LIKELY ASSUMED THEY WERE TRYING TO UNITE THE DEMONS AND THE EMPIRE TOGETHER
SO, THIS IS TOOL'S MYSTERIOUS ATTACK
I HEARD THAT THE HIGHLIGHT OF THAT OCCASION WAS THE DEMONS ESCAPING
SPEAKING OF "DESPAIR," IT RECEIVED DAMAGE FROM SOMEONE'S PREVIOUS ATTACK.


WOULDN'T IT BE AMUSING?
THIRD TROOP COMMANDER MAJOR GENERAL THORN
IF THOSE LOWLY DEMONS ARE EXTERMINATED, MY MERIT WILL ALSO RISE.
I SUDDENLY WANT TO BELIEVE THAT

STORY: YOSHINO TAKUMI ART: HADUKI TSUBASA

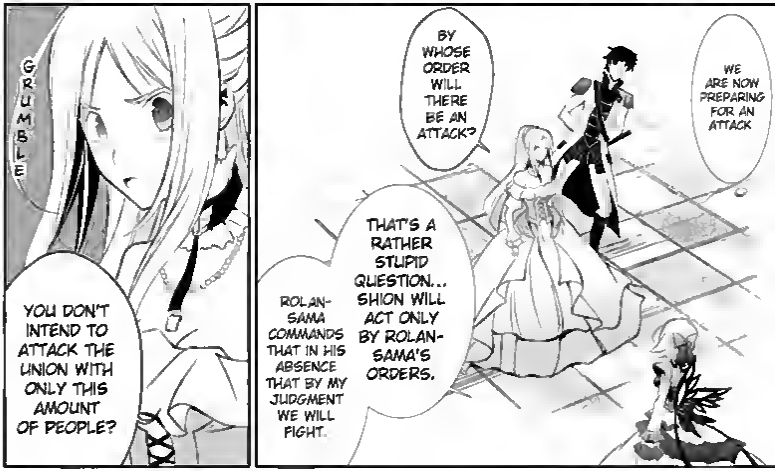
UMM ...
WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?
CLANK
WHY, I'M YOUR HIGHNESS' ESCORT!
CLANK
IT'S BECAUSE I'VE BEEN ENTRUSTED BY LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROLAN. YOU KNOW!
CLANK
I-I SEE
CLANK
..IN THE END
I WASN'T ABLE TO GIVE HIM MY ANSWER
IT'S JUST A SCRIMMAGE BUT EVEN ROLAN LOSES SOMETIMES.
It's ok. Just have a little courage!
WEILER SAYS I SHOULD BE IN SIGHT, BECAUSE I AM ONE OF THE EMPIRE'S MOST INFLUI-ENTIAL PEOPLE

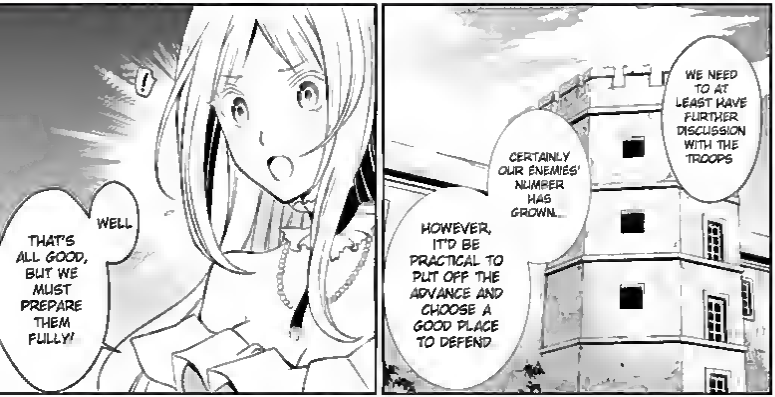
NOTE FROM Q/C IF YOU'RE CONFUSED BY WHY SHE SEEMS TO THINK OF COMPLETELY RANDOM THINGS ONE AFTER THE OTHER, WELL YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE.

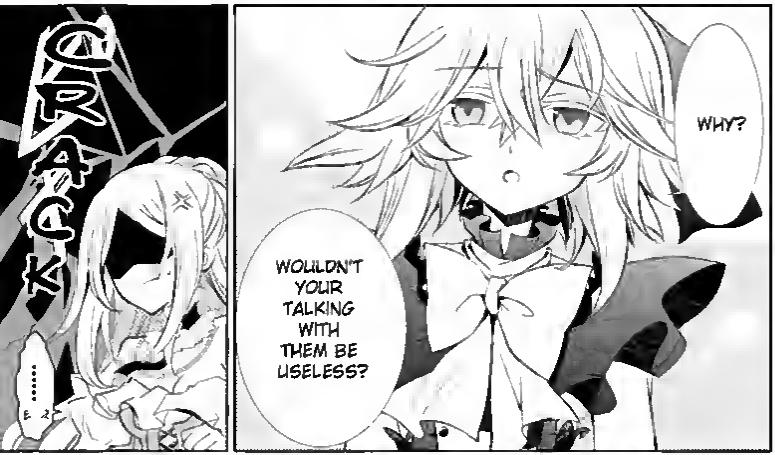
I NEED A LITTLE MORE TIME...
...PLEASE
I DON'T LIKE THE DEMONS. AND I DON'T WANT THEM TO NOTICE IT.
BECAUSE THE EMPIRE NOW CONSIDERS THE DEMONS' COOPERATION NECESSARY
THAT'S SIMPLEST THING I UNDERSTAND!
IT'S REGRETTABLE BUT
..I'LL JUST HAVE TO ASK SHION AND SEE.

WHA?
DO YOU TRUST THE DEMONS?
SO WEILER...

NOT AT ALL!
AREN'T THE DEMONS EVIL?
BUT THEN HAVING SAID 'EVIL DEMON'
ONE WILL BE REFORMED ONCE THEY FEEL THE DEPTH OF THE LIEUTENANT'S BOSOM...
MOVED
SO THAT'S WHAT I THINK
DON'T YOU AGREE?
BO-
BOS-OM, HUH?
CLACK CLACK
THAT DEMON HOWEVER, FOR ROLAN TO USE THE SKY SHOP, ONE WOULD NEED TO BE INSIDE THE CASTLE AND ALL, RIGHT?
I SEE I UNDER-STAND
CLACK CLACK
UM, JUST A MOMENT, I'M GOING TO SPEAK WITH SHION AND THE REST
CLACK CLACK
THE DEMONS? THEY'VE BEEN OFFERED AN ENTIRE BARRACKS TO STAY IN
CLACK CLACK
WHA...!? WAIT... IT'S DANGEROUS YOUR HIGHNESS!


GRUMBLE
YOU DON'T INTEND TO ATTACK THE UNION WITH ONLY THIS AMOUNT OF PEOPLE?
ROLAN-SAMA COMMANDS THAT IN HIS ABSENCE THAT BY MY JUDGMENT WE WILL FIGHT.
THAT'S A RATHER STUPID QUESTION... SHION WILL ACT ONLY BY ROLAN-SAMA'S ORDERS.
BY WHOSE ORDER WILL THERE BE AN ATTACK?
WE ARE NOW PREPARING FOR AN ATTACK


WE NEED TO AT LEAST HAVE FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH THE TROOPS
CERTAINLY OUR ENEMIES' NUMBER HAS GROWN...
HOWEVER, IT'D BE PRACTICAL TO PUT OFF THE ADVANCE AND CHOOSE A GOOD PLACE TO DEFEND
!
WELL
THAT'S ALL GOOD, BUT WE MUST PREPARE THEM FULLY!


WHY?
WOULDN'T YOUR TALKING WITH THEM BE USELESS?
ORZ
.....
E-2

GAH GAH
GAH GAH
P...
PLEASE!
P-PATIENCE! PATIENCE NOW!
BECAUSE I CAME TO TALK WITH HER...!!
SURELY YOU'D WANT TO HEAR ME OUT.

THEN WE ATTACK OUR ENEMIES.
UNTIL WE REACH TOOL FROM THE NATIONAL BORDER, WE MUST CROSS THE VALLEY WHILE WE CAN.
.....
MAYBE IT'S THE ROAD THAT COMES OUT OF MT. FIYU?
IT'S THE SMALL, NARROW ROAD BETWEEN CAROLINE PLATEAU AND MT. FIYU THAT IS TOOL'S CONNECTION TO THE NATIONAL
YOU THINK SO? COULD BE...
AT BEST IT EXTENDS SEVERAL HUNDRED METERS BUT,-- HOW-EVER...
IF IT WAS ME I WOULDN'T STOP THEM...
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THEY GO AROUND AND CUT IN BECAUSE THE UNION TROOPS ARE ABOVE AND THE PLATEAU IS SHORTER THAN THAT MOUNTAIN ANYWAY.
THAT IS YOUR HUMAN CIRCUM-STANCES
AFTER ALL... WE ALL FLY.

ROLAN-SAMA WILL SOON GATHER THE "APOSTLE FIVE" AND RETURN.
THAT IS THE ONLY MOMENT TO WORK TOWARD.
IF OUR OPPONENT DECIDES TO CLIMB THE PLATEAU
WE WILL CRUSH THE WORTHLESS BEINGS UNTIL THEY'RE SLAUGHTERED!

OUR ENEMY IS FAST... IF THERE AREN'T ANY ADVANCING TROOPS THERE, WHAT ROAD WILL THEY TURN UP ON?
THAT IS ROLAN-SAMA'S THOUGHT ON THE MATTER.
NAA, ITS GREAT THE LIEUTENANT GENERAL IS POPULAR!
NOPE
...EVEN IF THEY STOP THERE'S NO CHANCE FOR THE ADVANCING TROOPS TO HOLD BACK IS THERE?
ZWIP
ME?
I'M HIS TRU-STED FRI-END.
UM SHION!
HE'S EVEN BEING ACCOM-PANIED BY THAT DEMON.
SO COOL!
.....
YOU'RE ALWAYS FOLLOWING ROLAN-SAMA AROUND BUT... WHO ARE YOU?

I HAVE A REQUEST!
AT LEAST WAIT UNTIL THE ADVANCING TROOP'S ARRANGEMENTS ARE READY!!
THEN THE IMPERIAL FORCES CAN MOBILIZE WITH US.

...NO.
BA-
BUMP

TOGE-
THER
WITH
YOU
HUM-
ANS...
?
FU
WH-
WHAT?
I
REFUSE.
RETRE-
TING IS
REPU-
LSIVE...
SUDDENLY
THE
ATMO-
SPHERE
IS...

IT
SEEMS
...
THIS
IS...
ALTH-
OUGH
HUMANS
THINK
SHION-
SAMA
RUDE
...STILL,
IT'D BE
BETTER
TO HAVE
KILLED
THEM.
IT'S
BECAUSE
OF ROLAN
THEY'VE
FORGOTTEN
BUT...
YOU
THINK
FILTHY
HUMANS
CAN HELP
US?!!
REALLY
...
THAT IS
REPU-
LSIVE

DEMONS...
WE WANNA KILL...
KILL!
WHOOOOOAAA
IF WE DIDN'T HAVE KOLAN-SAMA'S COMMAND YOU'D ALL BE DEAD
FILTHY HUM-ANS THAT I WILL
KILL.
TRAIT-OROUS HUMANS...
YOU-'RE GON-NA DIE!
I ASSURE YOU THAT IS WHAT I INTEND.
IF I WAS THAT PERSON IN A TIME LIKE THIS...
IF THAT'S THE CASE, WILL THEY EVEN HEAR ME OUT?
THEY WON'T LEND AN EAR TO WHAT I, A HUMAN, HAVE TO SAY AFTER ALL.
HOPELESS...
IT'S

... AH
SO_
IT'S GOOD IF IT'S LIKE THIS, RIGHT?
... SHI-ON
BREATHE
BLINK
SO ISN'T OUR COLLAB-ORATING
CERTAINLY ROLAN'S WISH, THEN?

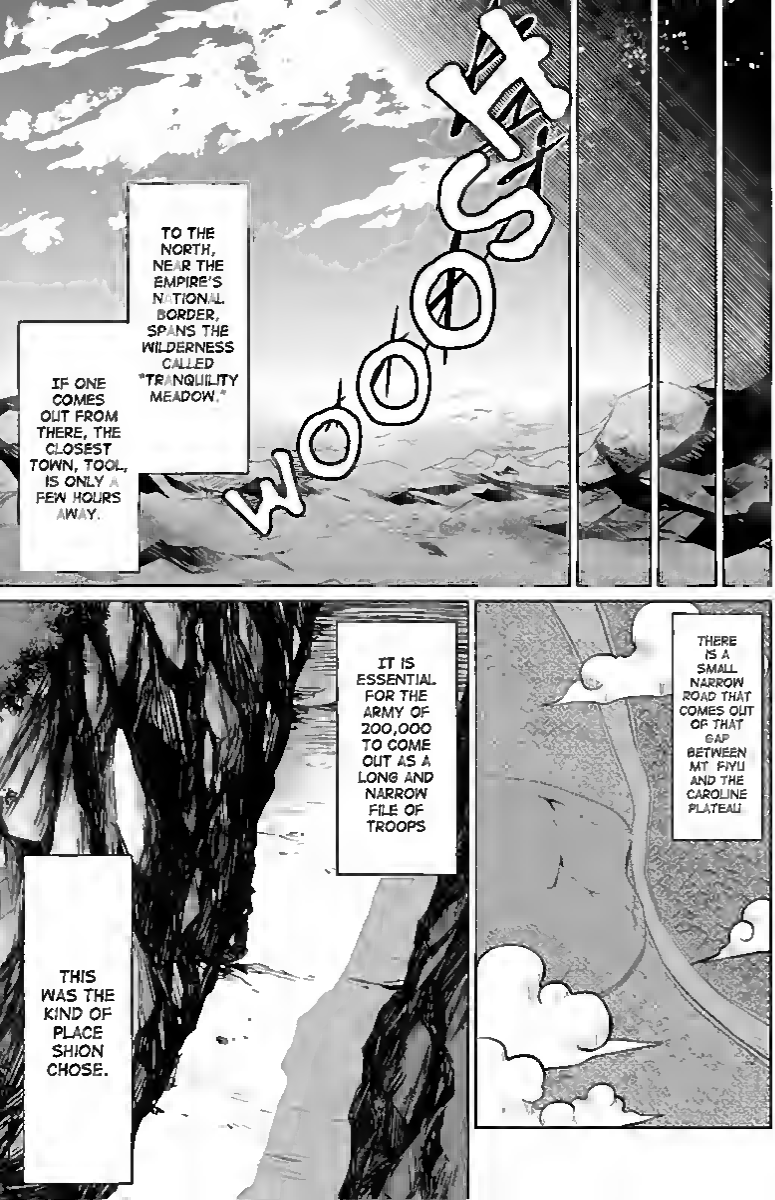
GOOOO
ROLAN WOULD NEVER BE HAPPY WITH YOU ACTING ON YOUR OWN!!"
BUT I PROPOSE AN ALLANCE
AND YOU DON'T WANT TO GRANT ROLAN'S WISH?!

DEFLATE

HUMANS DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY FAITH IN US, BUT...
IF ITS ROLAN-SAMA'S WISH I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
SIGH
RE-
REA-LLY?!
THANKS ROLAN!
SHI-
SHION-SAMA?!
YOU HUMANS MISUNDE-RSTAND...
SHION-SAMA WON'T LISTEN TO YOUR REQUEST
IT'S ALL FOR ROLAN-SAMA'S SAKE...
AS LONG AS THAT IS WHAT IS WISHED FOR, WE WILL NEED TO WORK TOGETHER WITH YOU HUMANS...
... SO HURR-Y IT UP...

...BEFORE SHION-SAMA CHANGES HER MIND.
UH, UM PLEASE WAIT? IF YOU ALLOW ME TIME TO PREPARE
I WILL TRY TO TALK TO JOHAN AND MY UNCLE!
RUN
AH
PLEASE WAIT YOUR HIGH-NESS!
.....
THE TRICK THAT I GAMBLED ON WORKED!
STEP
STEP
STEP
I DON'T FULLY UNDER-STAND THE APOSTLE FIVE BUT
UNTIL ROLAN BRINGS BACK THE DEMONS' LT WEAPON, IF WE DON'T GET OURSELVES SOME TIME, THEN ..!

WHY DO THEY HATE HUMANS ...?
THE ATTITUDE SHION HAS...
THE DEMONS MAY HATE HUMANS BUT...
STEP
STEP


WOOOSH
TO THE NORTH, NEAR THE EMPIRE'S NATIONAL BORDER, SPANS THE WILDERNESS CALLED "TRANQUILITY MEADOW."
IF ONE COMES OUT FROM THERE, THE CLOSEST TOWN, TOOL, IS ONLY A FEW HOURS AWAY.
THERE IS A SMALL NARROW ROAD THAT COMES OUT OF THAT GAP BETWEEN MT. FIYU AND THE CAROLINE PLATEAU.
IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE ARMY OF 200,000 TO COME OUT AS A LONG AND NARROW FILE OF TROOPS
THIS WAS THE KIND OF PLACE SHION CHOSE.

SEVERAL DAYS LATER ETOILE'S JOINT STRATEGY WAS SET
SHION FINALLY ARRIVED AT THE SMALL ROAD BEFORE THE UNION.
WE WILL SURROUND THEM HERE. THIS WILL BE THE UNION'S TRAP
WILL THE HUMANS BE FIGHTING TOGETHER WITH US?
FOLLOWING THEIR ARRIVAL... WE'LL ENTRUST SURROUNDING THEM TO THE HUMANS.
WHEN THE ENEMY RETREATS...
WE'LL PURSUE AND STRIKE.
I UNDERSTAND.
FURY... YOU'VE SAID IT BEFORE BUT, IT SEEMS YOU WON'T FIGHT ALONGSIDE THEM BECAUSE THEY'RE HUMANS. .
ALL WILL BECOME MIGHTY BY MEANS OF OUR MASTER.
WHOOO
PLEASE EXCUSE ME SHION-SAMA.
ONLY, THE HUMANS' STRENGTH TO TAKE ON THE 200,000 IS LACKING...
WILL THEY HAVE ENOUGH TO DEFEND AGAINST THEM?

G.A.S.P
IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT IF WE JUST DON'T THINK ABOUT IT.
THEN DOESN'T THAT JUST MEAN WE SLAUGHTER THEM ALL?
SHION-SAMA?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
H.A.A.
BY THAT SHION... FEELS...
THAT BEFORE LONG THE APOSTLE FIVE
WILL ARRIVE WITH OUR MASTER.

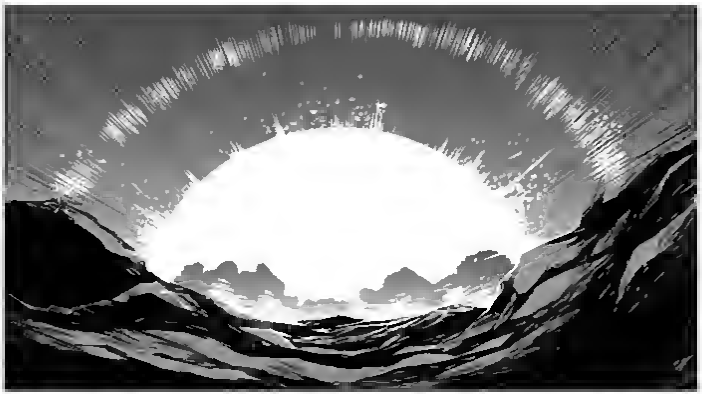
SHOCK!
APOSTLE FIVE?!
SINCE THE SECOND AGE THEY HAVE NEVER PARTICIPATED IN ANY WAR, AND YET..
THIS WOULD BE THE BEGINNING OF HOSTILITIES!
THAT IS OUR LEADER'S...
WILL.

THEREFORE THERE WILL BE NO DEFEAT...
SUCH A DEFEAT CANNOT HELP OUR AIM.
EVERYONE, WE WILL BECOME MIGHTY BY MEANS OF OUR MASTER'S PRESENCE.
BY HIS HEART'S CONTENT
BY HIS HEART'S CONTENT

FIGHT BY HIS HEART'S CONTENT.

THUS

THE EMPIRE AND THE UNION'S TRUE BATTLE HAD BEGUN



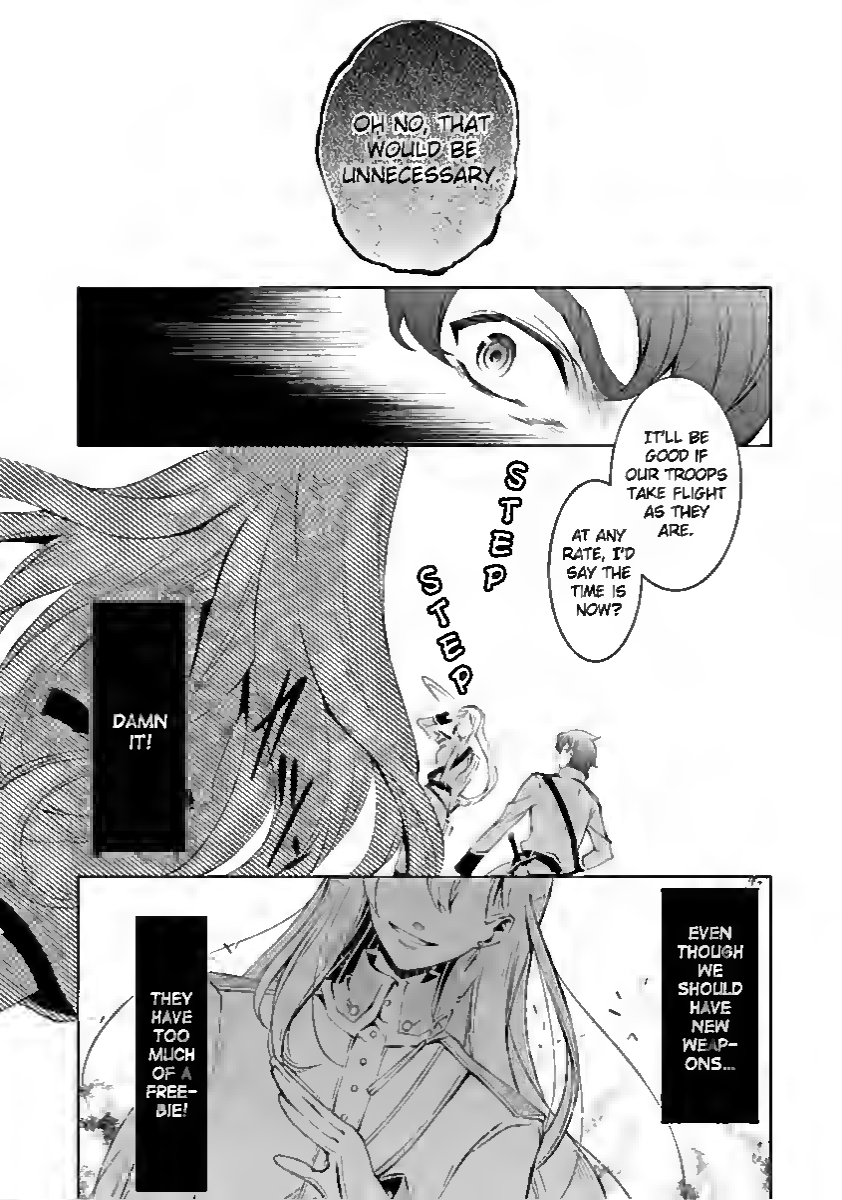
AAAA

CRAP, THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING
IS THE EMPIRE SERIOUSLY GOING TO HANG WITH THE DEMONS ..?!

IT SEEMS THE DEMONS HAVE TAKEN UP POSITION ON THE OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE ROAD THAT GOES BETWEEN MT. FIYU AND THE CAROLINE PLATEAU.
I REPORT THAT THE DEMONS HAVE APPEARED...

I PROPOSE WE REEXAMINE OUR TACTICS
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

THE MAJOR GENERAL WON'T UNIFY THE COMMAND SYSTEM FOR ALL THE MEMBERS.
ONLY I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THIS THORN GUY WOULD APPROVE.
SIGH
WE'LL HAVE TO CHANGE OUR FORMATION AT THE LEAST, HUH?
IS THAT RIGHT ...?


OH NO, THAT WOULD BE UNNECESSARY.
IT'LL BE GOOD IF OUR TROOPS TAKE FLIGHT AS THEY ARE.
AT ANY RATE, I'D SAY THE TIME IS NOW?
STEP
STEP
DAMN IT!
EVEN THOUGH WE SHOULD HAVE NEW WEAP-ONS...
THEY HAVE TOO MUCH OF A FREE-BIE!

THIS DOESN'T CONCERN ME AT ALL!!
SMILE
AFTER THIS I SHALL TAKE DIRECT COMMAND

INT-ERES-TING

DEMONS, HUH?
I'VE DISCOVERED THEM AT LAST.
次回に続く 2/9

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